

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUNE 21, 2012

SUBJECT

Proposed Rule Change IDAPA 08.02.03.160 - Safe Environment and Discipline

REFERENCES

October 20, 2011 Presentation given to the Board on proposed language.

APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

Sections 33-116, 33-1612, Idaho Code

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

At the October 19-20, 2011 State Board of Education meeting, the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence and the State Department of Education (SDE) presented local and national data about the critical issue of adolescent relationship abuse and its effects on Idaho students. At that time, the SDE indicated that it would come before the Board at a later meeting with a proposed rule change to address the prevention of and response to adolescent relationship abuse and sexual assault in Idaho schools.

Adolescent relationship abuse and sexual assault is a serious problem receiving national and local attention. According to the Center for Disease Control, "one in five women and nearly one in seven men who experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of violence between 11 and 17 years of age" (CDC, 2011). Approximately one in three adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner (Davis, 2008). In 2011, 8.7% of Idaho high school students were hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend (CDC, 2011). Almost half of all female victims who have been raped experienced their first rape before age 18 (30% between 11 and 17) (CDC, 2011).

Promoting healthy adolescent relationships can reduce adolescent risk behaviors, relationship abuse and sexual assault, early sexual activity, alcohol and drug abuse, and other forms of violence (Wolfe et al., 2006). Adolescent relationship abuse and sexual assault, along with other risk behaviors, rarely occurs in a vacuum. Rather, these behaviors almost always take place within a relationship. It is critical for communities and schools to promote healthy relationships and teach adolescents the skills they need to negotiate relationship issues, including responding to pressure to participate in risk behaviors (Wolfe et al., 2006).

Over 40 percent of young people who report they are victims of relationship abuse say that the incidents occurred in a school building or

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUNE 21, 2012

on school grounds (Molidor & Tolman, 1998). In addition to becoming involved in other risk behaviors, victims of relationship abuse or sexual assault are more likely to be truant, have lower grades, and drop out of school (Futures Without Violence, 2011). Students who don't feel safe can't learn effectively. It is imperative that school personnel, in concert with parents and the community, have the knowledge and skills to teach healthy adolescent relationship skills and to respond to incidents of abuse.

IMPACT

This rule will help to ensure that Idaho public schools provide and support a safe environment conducive to learning that promotes healthy relationship skills and opportunities for Idaho students and addresses the growing problem of adolescent relationship abuse and sexual assault in Idaho schools. Local districts will add adolescent relationship abuse and sexual assault prevention to their comprehensive Safe Environment and Discipline policies and procedures and review these policies annually in light of current research and practice. Training, sample policy language, and resource information/materials will be supported by SDE and community partners, including the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence and its project, the Center for Healthy Teen Relationships.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Proposed Change to IDAPA 08.02.03 .160	Page 3
Attachment 2 – References	Page 5

BOARD ACTION

I move to approve the proposed amendment to IDAPA 08.02.03.160, Rules Governing Thoroughness, Safe Environment and Discipline as submitted.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Carried Yes ____ No ____

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUNE 21, 2012**

08.02.03.160-161 Rules Governing Thoroughness

160. SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND DISCIPLINE.

Each school district will have a comprehensive districtwide policy and procedure encompassing the following:

School Climate
Discipline
Student Health
Violence Prevention
Gun-free Schools
Substance Abuse – Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other Drugs
Suicide Prevention
Student Harassment
Drug-Free School Zones
Building Safety including Evacuation Drills
<u>Relationship Abuse and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response</u>

Districts will conduct an annual review of these policies and procedures. (See Section 33-1612)

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUNE 21, 2012**

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REFERENCES

- Black, Michele C., Kathleen C. Basile, Matthew J. Breiding, Sharon G. Smith, Mikel L. Walters, Melissa T. Merrick, Jieru Chen, & Mark R. Stevens. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011. Print.
- Center for Disease Control. *2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Results Idaho High School Survey*. Atlanta: CDC. 2011. Print.
- Davis, Antoinette. "Interpersonal and Physical Dating Violence among Teens." *Focus: Views from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency*. Oakland: NCCD, Sept. 2008. Print.
- Futures Without Violence. "The Facts on Reproductive Health and Partner Abuse." Retrieved _____ from http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Reproductive.pdf
- Molidor, Christian, Richard M. Tolman. "Gender and contextual factors in adolescent dating violence." *Violence Against Women* 4:2 (1998): 180-94. Print.
- Wolfe, David A., Peter G. Jaffe, and Claire V. Crooks. *Adolescent Risk Behaviors: Why Teens Experiment and Strategies to Keep Them Safe*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2006. 25. Print.

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUNE 21, 2012**

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